

In the Claims:

1           1.     [Currently Amended] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4           condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5           of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7           one environmental condition externally of the image forming device;  
8           a memory; and  
9           processing circuitry configured to control storage of the data using the  
10          memory to provide a history comprising a plurality of values of the at least one  
11          environmental condition to which the image forming device has been exposed at  
12          a plurality of different moments in time.

1           2.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the image engine is  
2           configured to use a consumable to form the hard images, and the interface  
3           comprises a memory of the consumable.

1           3.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the interface comprises a  
2           communications interface adapted to communicate with devices external of the  
3           image forming device.

1           4.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising processing  
2           circuitry configured as an embedded web server and configured to communicate  
3           the data with respect to a client device external of the image forming device.

1           5.     Canceled.

1           6.     [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the  
2           processing circuitry is configured to control the storage of the data at a  
3           predetermined moment in time.

1           7.     [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the  
2     processing circuitry is configured to monitor the data and to control the storage  
3     of the data responsive to the monitoring.

1           8.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising an internal  
2     power source configured to provide power to the sensor in an absence of power  
3     from a source external of the image forming device.

1           9.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the environmental sensor  
2     is configured to monitor the at least one environmental condition comprising a  
3     plurality of environmental conditions proximate to the image forming device and  
4     comprising humidity and temperature.

1           10.    [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the image engine  
2     comprises a print engine of the image forming device embodied as a printer.

1           11.    [Previously Presented] A method of operating an image forming  
2     device, the method comprising:  
3             providing an image forming device configured to form hard images;  
4             sensing at least one environmental condition of an environment proximate  
5     to the image forming device;  
6             communicating data regarding the at least one environmental condition  
7     externally of the image forming device; and  
8             receiving a request within the image forming device from a source  
9     external of the image forming device, and the communicating comprises  
10    communicating responsive to the receiving.

1           12.    Canceled.

1           13.    Canceled.

1           14.    [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the sensing comprises  
2     sensing a plurality of environmental conditions comprising temperature and  
3     humidity.

1           15.   [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device embodied as a printer.

1           16.   [Previously Presented] A method of monitoring an environment  
2 proximate to an image forming device configured to form hard images, the  
3 method comprising:  
4           providing an image forming device configured to form hard images and to  
5 monitor at least one environmental condition proximate to the image forming  
6 device and to communicate data regarding the at least one environmental  
7 condition externally of the image forming device;  
8           receiving the data regarding the at least one environmental condition from  
9 the image forming device; and  
10          analyzing the data regarding the at least one environmental condition after  
11 the receiving to determine a quantitative parameter for the at least one  
12 environmental condition for testing other image forming devices.

1           17.   Canceled.

1           18.   [Original] The method of claim 16 further comprising  
2 communicating a request to the image forming device, and wherein the  
3 communicating the data is responsive to the communicating the request.

1           19.   [Original] The method of claim 16 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device configured to use a consumable, and  
3 wherein the receiving the data comprises extracting the data from the  
4 consumable.

1           20.   [Original] The method of claim 16 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device configured to monitor the at least one  
3 environmental condition comprising a plurality of environmental conditions  
4 comprising temperature and humidity.

1           21.   [Previously Presented] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device; and  
8           an internal power source configured to provide power to the sensor in an  
9 absence of power from a source external of the image forming device.

1           22.   Canceled.

1           23.   [Previously Presented] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device; and  
8           wherein the image engine is configured to use a consumable to form the  
9 hard images, and the interface comprises a memory of the consumable.

1           24.   [Currently Amended] The device of claim 1 wherein the data of  
2 the history comprises ~~a plurality of~~ the values for the at least one environmental  
3 condition stored over a period of time.

1           25.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 further comprising an  
2 internal power source configured to provide operational power to permit storage  
3 of the data to provide the history of the at least one environmental condition  
4 during an absence of power from a source external of the image forming device.

1           26. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 11 wherein the  
2 providing comprises providing the image forming device configured to use a  
3 consumable to form hard images, and the communicating comprises storing the  
4 data regarding the at least one environmental condition using the consumable.

1           27. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 16 wherein the  
2 quantitative parameter comprises a temperature range.

1           28. [Previously Presented] An image forming device testing method  
2 comprising:  
3           providing a first image forming device to be tested;  
4           accessing a history comprising data indicative of at least one  
5 environmental condition to which at least one second image forming device has  
6 been exposed;  
7           determining at least one testing criteria responsive to the accessing of the  
8 history; and  
9           testing the first image forming device using the testing criteria after the  
10 determining.

1           29. [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the  
2 processing circuitry is configured to control outputting of the history externally  
3 of the image forming device.

1           30. [Currently Amended] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing  
2 circuitry is configured to control outputting of the history ~~comprising a plurality~~  
3 ~~of values indicative of the at least one environmental condition obtained at a~~  
4 ~~plurality of different moments of time.~~

1           31. [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the memory  
2 is configured to store the history prior to the image forming device being  
3 implemented for the first time to form hard images.

1           32. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 11 wherein the  
2 communicating comprises outputting the data regarding the at least one  
3 environmental condition externally of the image forming device.

1           33. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 16 further comprising  
2 outputting the data regarding the at least one environmental condition externally  
3 of the image forming device.

1           34. [Previously Presented] The device of claim 21 wherein the  
2 interface is configured to output the data indicative of the at least one  
3 environmental condition externally of the image forming device.

1           35. [Previously Presented] The device of claim 23 wherein the  
2 interface is configured to output the data indicative of the at least one  
3 environmental condition externally of the image forming device.

1           36. [New] An image forming device comprising:  
2 an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3 an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;  
6 an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device;  
8 a memory;  
9 processing circuitry configured to control storage of the data using the  
10 memory to provide a history of the at least one environmental condition to  
11 which the image forming device has been exposed; and  
12 wherein the image engine is configured to use a consumable to form the  
13 hard images, and the interface comprises a memory of the consumable.

1           37. [New] An image forming device comprising:  
2 an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3 an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental

4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;

6 an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device;

8 a memory;

9 processing circuitry configured to control storage of the data using the  
10 memory to provide a history of the at least one environmental condition to  
11 which the image forming device has been exposed; and

12 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to control outputting of the  
13 history externally of the image forming device.

1 38. [New] An image forming device comprising:

2 an image engine configured to form hard images;

3 an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;

6 an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device;

8 a memory;

9 processing circuitry configured to control storage of the data using the  
10 memory to provide a history of the at least one environmental condition to  
11 which the image forming device has been exposed; and

12 wherein the memory is configured to store the history prior to the image  
13 forming device being implemented for the first time to form hard images.

14

1 39. [New] The device of claim 21 wherein power from the internal  
2 power source is not used by the image engine to form hard images.

1 40. [New] The device of claim 21 wherein the internal power source is  
2 configured to provide power to the environmental sensor during moments in  
3 time wherein the image forming device is not operational to form hard images.